

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia  
SUBJECT The Trutnov Branch, Regional Store  
in Hradec Karlove, Food Stores, National  
Corporation  
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1. The Trutnov branch office of the Food Stores, National Corporation is subordinated /1952/ to the regional store in Hradec Kralove. The regional store itself is subordinated directly to the Ministry of Domestic Trade in Prague. The store in Trutnov supplied exclusively only the free state market, Pramen stores, as well as some canteens and hotels.
2. The following were delivery trucks: One 5-ton Bussina; one 3-ton Betford; one 2.5-ton truck of unknown make. The store had a Skoda passenger car.
3. The grocery goods and liquors were received directly from the factories. The allotment of goods was carried out in accordance with a plan which was fixed one year in advance. All allocations for the branch stores were directed by the regional store in Hradec Kralove. The merchandise was brought by rail or by trucks.

The management of the branch store in Trutnov was located on Nadrazni Street, about 100 meters from the local railway station. There were also food store-houses in the same building.

4. The total number of personnel was approximately 30 persons of whom 14 were administrative employees, four were drivers and 12 were storehouse workers. The manager of this branch store was Mr (fnu) Keimund, a loyal Communist.

The average wage of a worker employed in the storehouse or of a driver was 4,000 Kcs (crowns) per month. The wages of administrative employees were somewhat higher (4,500 crowns per month).

About half of the employees were Communists. The working hours were 0730 to 1700 hours daily.

5. The storehouse was guarded at night by one guard armed with a pistol. The main storehouses were in two three-story buildings next to the administration building.

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50X1

-2-

6. Since 1 Jan 52 employees have not received any special ration tickets for heavy work. This has had an adverse effect on their loyalty. The Communist propaganda was rather weak in the store; the employees seldom attended the Party meetings. 50X1

7.

8. The living standard has deteriorated considerably in comparison with that of 1950. The prices of many commodities went up while the wages were cut. 50X1

9. [redacted] The Trutnov Labor Office sends all available men for work in the Ostrava-Karvinna mines or to the munitions plant in Semtin. The workers are not interested in membership in the Trade Unions (URO). [redacted] the social benefits are very advantageous. The workers like the recreation and health institutions, mainly because they are not required to work there. This is true of course only as long as the workers remain sober. If they are drunk, they criticize everything, including the social insurance and the Communist Party. 50X1

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